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10/512,100	10/21/2004	Frank Melzer	LO29-016	6409
7590	02/13/2007		EXAMINER	
D Brent Kenady Wells St John 601 West First Ave Suite 1300 Spokane, WA 99201-3828			BEN, LOHA	
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EXAMINER

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20070207

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Commissioner for Patents

In response to Comments made on December 8, 2006 by Mr. Brent Kenady, Applicants' representative, on the Statement of Reasons for Allowance, the examiner wishes to rewrite the Statement of Reasons for Allowance as follows:

REASONS FOR ALLOWANCE

The art of record, taken singly or in combination, fails to teach or fairly suggest the combination of elements making up the lighting system of the present independent claim 1, wherein the system comprises a projection objective for producing semiconductor elements for wavelengths lesser than or equal to 193 nm, a light source, an object plane, an exit pupil, a first optical element having first grid elements for producing optical channels and a second optical element having second grid elements, each optical channel which is formed by one of the first grid elements of the first optical element being assigned a grid element of the second optical element, it being possible for the grid elements of the first optical element and of the second optical element to be configured in such a way or arranged in such a way that the result for each optical channel is a continuous beam course from the light source as far as the object plane, characterized in that the angles of the first grid elements of the first optical element can be adjusted in order to modify a tilt in order, by means of tilting the first grid elements, to implement a different assignment of the first grid elements of the first optical element on the second grid elements of the second optical element.

With regard to independent claim 22, the projection exposition installation claimed therein comprises a lighting system having the limitations as called for in claim 1. Therefore, claim 22 also distinguishes over the art of record.

Loha Ben
Primary Examiner